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Federal Defenders OF NEW YORK, INC.

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Via ECF

The Honorable Vernon S. Broderick United States District Judge Southern District of New York Thurgood Marshall Courthouse 40 Foley Square New York, NY 10007

> Re: United States v. Pruden, 21 Cr. 358 (VSB)

February 15, 2023

APPLICATION GRANTED SO ORDERED AJ. VERNON S. BRODERICK U.S.D.J. 02/16/2023

The parties shall email my chambers by February 16, 2023 to inform me whether they intend to present the revised plea agreement during Friday's conference or whether the conference should be adjourned.

Honorable Judge Broderick:

With the consent of the Government, I write to respectfully request that the Court allow Defendant Robert Pruden to withdraw his plea of guilty, entered on August 19, 2022, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(d)(2)(B).

"[A] defendant may 'withdraw a plea of guilty or nolo contendere after the court accepts the plea, but before it imposes sentence if the defendant can show a fair and just reason for requesting the withdrawal." *United States v. Albarran*, 943 F.3d 106, 117 (2d Cir. 2019) (quoting Fed. R. Crim. P. 11(d)(2)(B)). Here, the parties agree that Mr. Pruden can withdraw his previously entered guilty plea for the "fair and just" reason that the parties will then be able to enter into a revised plea agreement in light of the new Department of Justice guidelines on crack and powder cocaine. *See* Additional Department Policies Regarding Charging, Pleas, and Sentencing in Drug Cases, Op. Att'y Gen. (Dec. 16, 2022). The parties anticipate that Mr. Pruden will enter a new plea forthwith based on a revised plea agreement.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher A. Flood Assistant Federal Defender

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cc: Elizabeth Espinosa, AUSA (by ECF)